

Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 239

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SPECIAL BRIEFING ON TURKISH CYPRIOT SITUATION

REF: TOSEC 225

JERUSALEM: PASS TO AMBASSADOR ANDERSON WITH SECRETARY'S PARTY

NO. 19

FOLLOWING IS QUESTION-AND-ANSWER PORTION OF SPECIAL PRESS

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BRIEFING AT WHICH FUNSETH READ STATEMENT IN REFTEL.

Q: BOB, YOU ARE REFERRING TO THE DENKTASH TALKS, A PROCESS WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER WAY. DO YOU CONSIDER THAT AS A CLOSED CHAPTER? YOU ARE SAYING THAT "WHICH WE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT." ANYWAY, WHAT IS YOUR INFORMATION, OR WHAT IS YOUR FEELING? IS THIS ENDED, THIS DENKTASH --

A: I DON'T BELIEVE SO. THE MONDAY MEETING WAS POSTPONED, AS YOU PROBABLY KNOW, AND IT WAS POSTPONED UNTIL TOMORROW, AND AS FAR AS I KNOW THAT MEETING IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE TOMORROW, AND WE HOPE IT WILL TAKE PLACE.

Q: THAT IS THE ONE IN BONN?

A: NO, THIS IS THE MEETING IN CYPRUS.

Q: IS THE SECRETARY PROCEEDING WITH HIS PLANS FOR A MEETING WITH THE GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER IN BONN?

A: YES, SIR, HE IS.

Q: THAT IS WHEN? WHAT'S THE DATE OF THAT? SUNDAY, ISN'T IT?

A: YES.

Q: WHEN YOU REFER HERE TO EVENTS OF RECENT WEEKS, ARE YOU REFERRING TO WHAT, PLEASE?

A: WELL, I'M REFERRING TO THE ACTION TODAY. I'M REFERRING TO THE FACT THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS AT THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS HAVE NOT MADE AS MUCH PROGRESS AS WE HAD HOPED -- TO THE CANCELLATION OF THE MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTER ESENBEL WITH THE SECRETARY -- AND THE CUTOFF OF AID TO TURKEY.

Q: DO YOU THINK THIS ACTION IS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE CUTOFF OF AMERICAN AID, OR IS IT RELATED IN ANY WAY TO IT?

A: I'M NOT ABLE TO COMMENT ON THAT QUESTION, SPENCE.

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Q: IS KISSINGER AWARE OF THIS STATEMENT?

A: YES, HE IS AWARE.

Q: HAS HE AUTHORIZED IT FROM HIS END?

A: I KNOW THAT WE'VE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE SECRETARY, SO I KNOW THAT HE IS AWARE THAT WE WERE GOING TO MAKE THIS

STATEMENT TODAY AT THIS TIME.

Q: BOB, WHEN YOU REFER TO THE IMPETUS TO THE NEGOTIATIONS, THE MEETINGS BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND THE INTERESTED PARTIES, WAS THERE STILL SOME HOPE WHEN HE LEFT THAT THERE COULD BE A FURTHER MEETING ARRANGED?

A: WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ESENBEL?

Q: YES.

A: NO, THERE WAS NO INDICATION WHEN HE LEFT THAT THAT MEETING WOULD BE RESCHEDULED -- THE ONE THAT HAD BEEN CANCELLED.

Q: THIS WAS REFERRING TO THE EARLIER ARRANGEMENTS?

A: YES.

Q: WHEN YOU SAY, "THE UNITED STATES REGRETS THE ACTION THAT HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED TODAY," DOES THAT MEAN THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT RECOGNIZE THE ACTION ANNOUNCED TODAY? IN OTHER WORDS, THAT IT WILL NOT ACCEPT JURIDICAL NOTICE OF IT?

A: IN OUR VIEW, THE TURKISH CYPRIOT STATEMENT TODAY DOES NOT, REPEAT, NOT POSE THE PROBLEM OF RECOGNITION.

Q: RECOGNITION OF WHOM?

A: IT MEANS THAT OUR EMBASSY IN CYPRUS IS ACCREDITED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS. THERE IS NO PROBLEM AS FAR AS THE QUESTION OF THAT RECOGNITION OR THAT CONTINUED ACCRE-
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DITATION, AS A RESULT OF THE STATEMENT THIS MORNING.

Q: WELL, LET'S GO A STEP FORWARD. IF THAT IS TRUE, WHO IS MR. DENKTASH? IS HE STILL VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS?

A: YES, HE IS, AS FAR AS I KNOW, HE'S VICE PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS, AND HE HAS CERTAINLY BEEN THE NEGOTIATOR OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY IN THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS.

Q: YES, BUT HIS LEGAL POSITION IS VICE PRESIDENT, OKAY?

A: YES, AS FAR AS I KNOW. YOU MAY WANT TO DIRECT THE QUESTION TO HIM.

Q: DID THE UNITED STATES HAVE ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE, OR WERE WE CONSULTED ON THIS ACTION, OR DID IT COME AS A SURPRISE?

A: I'M NOT AWARE THAT WE HAD ANY ADVANCE NOTIFICATION THAT THIS STATEMENT WAS GOING TO BE MADE.

Q: TO GO BACK TO MY ORIGINAL QUESTION: NAMELY, DOES THIS STATEMENT TODAY BY THE UNITED STATES THEN AMOUNT TO NON-RECOGNITION OF THE ACTION ANNOUNCED BY THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY?

A: WELL, AS I SAID, WE DON'T CONSIDER THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOT STATEMENT POSES ANY PROBLEM OF RECOGNITION. WHAT WE ARE SAYING TODAY, IS WE REGRET THE ACTION THAT WAS TAKEN.

Q: IN OTHER WORDS, YOU DON'T READ THE TURKISH CYPRIOT STATEMENT AS ESTABLISHING AN INDEPENDENT SOVEREIGN STATE? AS I READ THE REPORTS, IT WAS PART OF A FEDERAL REGIME IN CYPRUS. SO IT DIDN'T POSE A QUESTION?

A: WE DON'T REGARD IT AS POSING ANY PROBLEM TO US AS FAR AS RECOGNITION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS IS CONCERNED.

Q: BOB, ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY GREEK REACTION TO THIS?
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A: I HAVE NOT SEEN ANY GREEK REACTION.

Q: IT'S ON THE WIRES THAT KARAMANLIS CALLED IT ILLEGAL -- ARBITRARY AND ILLEGAL.

Q: THE GOVERNMENT SAYS IT SOUNDS VERY SERIOUS.

Q: IN ADDITION TO THE SECRETARY'S CURRENT PLAN TO MEET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS, DOES HE NOW INTEND TO RENEW EFFORTS TO MEET WITH THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER?

A: I KNOW OF NO SUCH PLANS FOR THE SECRETARY TO MEET WITH THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER.

Q: THANK YOU.

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